

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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SUBJECT: GOG ORDERS PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INTO
CHARGES OF TREASON AGAINST PAPADOPOULOS,
IOANNIDES AND 13 OTHER JUNTA PRINCIPALS

REF: ATHENS 7090

1. EX-PRESIDENT PAPADOPOULOS CONTINUED TO MAKE NEWS OVER WEEKEND WITH NEWSPAPERS REPORTING SHAFK GENERAL ARBOUZIS' ORDER FOR PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INTO PRIVATE LAWSUIT CHARGING FORMER DICTATOR PAPADOPOULOS AND 14 OTHERS WITH HIGH TREASON. PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION FOLLOWS SEPTEMBER 9 LAWSUIT INITIATED BY ATHENS LAWYER A. LYKOUREZOS AGAINST APRIL 21 REVOLUTION LEADERS ON CHARGES OF FORCING KING CONSTANTINE TO SUBMIT TO JUNTA'S TAKEOVER, ARRESTING ATHENS AND STATE BUREAUCRACY (SIC), AND PROCLAIMING STATE OF SIEGE ABOLISHING CONSTITUTIONAL LEGALITY AND INTERNAL RESPECT FOR STATE. LYKOUREZOS IN DOCUMENTING CHARGES FOR STATE PROSECUTION ADDED THAT CHARGES IN SUM CONSTITUTE "HIGH TREASON" AGAINST STATE. (NOTE: WHILE LYDOUREZOS' LAWSUIT WAS INITIALLY REGARDED AS JURIDICAL ANTIC WITH EYE TO HIS OWN POLITICLA FUTURE (LYDOUREZOS ENJOYS FAMILY PRESITGE FROM MOTHER WHO WAS CLOSE TO ROYAL FAMILY AND DIRECTED QUEEN'S FUND AND OTHER CHARITIES AND FROM FATHER,
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ONE OF NATION'S BEST KNOWN ATTORNEYS AND INTIMATE ASSOCIATE OF EX-PM MAKEZINIS), PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES

BY GREEK ARMY'S COMMITTEE CONDUCTING SUCH REVIEWS ADDS SERIOUS AND SOBER NOTE TO PROCEDURE. ARBOUZIS' ACTION MAY BE PROMPTED IN PART BY GOVERNMENT'S WISH TO DEMONSTRATE PUBLICLY THAT IT IS CONCERNED WITH "JUNTA FILE" BUT AVOIDING COMMITMENT ON DEFINITE ACTION UNTIL AFTER PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. DEJUNTIZATION AND ATMOSPHERE OF REVENGE AT PRESENT HAS NEGATIVE IMPACT ON PROSPECT FOR RETURN TO NATIONAL POLITICAL ORDER WHICH CARAMANLIS AND GOG CLEARLY APPRECIATE.)

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT PRESS REPORTED SEPTEMBER 29 THAT LEGAL OPINION OF SOME ATTORNEYS IS THAT LEGISLATIVE DECREE ISSUED AUGUST 1973 BY THEN PRESIDENT PAPADOPOULOS EXEMPTS MEMBERS OF HIS GOVERNMENT FROM LEGAL PROSECUTION FOR ACTIONS FROM APRIL 21, 1967 UNTIL AUGUST, 1973. UNDER CITED DECREE WHICH DOES NOT EXTEND BEYOND AUGUST 1973, ACTS PRESUMABLY PERFORMED IN COURSE OF OFFICIAL DUTIES BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE EXCLUDED FROM PUNISHMENT. LEGISLATIVE DECREE IN QUESTION DESCRIBED PREROGATIVES AND DUTIES OF MINISTERS AND IN SEPARATE PROVISION DECLARED THAT MINISTERS AND OTHER OFFICIALS COULD NOT BE PUNISHED FOR ACTS PERFORMED DURING THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE. DECREE PROVIDING FOR AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS GAZETTED ON AUGUST 19, CONSTITUTED SEPARATE GOVERNMENT ACTION. SAME LEGAL CIRCLES ALSO POINT OUT CARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT COULD CANCEL THIS MINISTERIAL IMMUNITY BY CONSTITUENT ACT.

3. MEANWHILE TESTIMONY ON POLYTECHNION RIOTS NOV. 17, 1973 CONTINUES TO BE TAKEN FROM FORMER JUNTA OFFICIALS. FOLLOWING HIS TESTIMONY SEPTEMBER 27, BGEN IOANNIDES, EX STRONGMAN OF NOVEMBER 25 JUNTA, WAS GREETED BY ANGRY GROUP OF STUDENTS AND YOUTH AT COURTHOUSE DEMANDING IOANNIDES BE HANDED OVER TO THEM. IOANNIDES DEPARTED BY BACK DOOR, AFTER TWO HOUR DELAY, ON FIRE ENGINE, OR ACCORDING TO ANOTHER ACCOUNT BY FRONT DOOR WITH HEAVY ESCORT AND MOTORCADE. OFFICIAL SOURCE IS QUOTED IN PRESS FOLLOWING DAY AS IMPLYING INTERROGATION OF EX-PRESIDENT PAPADOPOULOS MAY TAKE PLACE IN LAGONISSI RATHER THAN DOWNTOWN COURTHOUSE.

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4. NEWSPAPERS SEPTEMBER 30 FRONT-PAGED NEWS THAT BY DECISION OF "COMPETENT MINISTERS" 33 JUNTA OFFICIALS WERE FORBIDDEN TO LEAVE GREECE AND 23 JUNTA COLLABORATORS LOST DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS. VRADYNI REFERRED TO ITS EXCLUSIVE INFORMATION SOURCE AND ENUMERATED LEADING FIGURES OF MILITARY REGIME TO BE RESTRICTED BY TRAVEL BAN INCLUDING: G. PAPADOPOULOS AND WIFE, DIMITRIOS IOANNIDES, STYLIANOS PATTAKOS, NIKOLOAS MAKAREZOS, MICHAEL ROUFOGALIS, CONSTANTINE ASLANIDIS, IOANNIS LADAS, ADAM ANDROUTSOPOULOS,

ETC. DENIAL OF DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT TO TWENTY-THREE
INCLUDES MINISTERS AND WIVED FROM PAPADOPOULOS,
NOVEMBER 25 REGIME AND MARKEZINIS REGIME. (NOTE: WHILE
VRADYNI REPORT LACKS OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION, QUESTION NOW
IS WHETHER GOG IS SETTING STAGE FOR PRESECUTION OF ALL
NATION'S LEADERS SINCE APRIL 21, 1967.
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